

September 1, 2015

Dear Beloiters:

When I was sworn in as Interim Chief on June 16, 2015, I stated my main three goals, which parallel those of City Manager Lori Curtis Luther: to enhance leadership, strengthen community relations and transition into a new era of modern-day policing. In the spirit of strengthening community relations, I am excited to tell you about a program we have been running inside the department that has a direct, positive impact on our community.

More often than you may realize, someone is released from the Wisconsin Prison System and moves or returns to Beloit under parole supervision. The Department of Corrections (DOC) has primary responsibility to monitor persons on parole and assist with their reintegration into society. In Beloit, we recognize the police department can play an important role in the success of persons reintegrating from prison, as well as provide a collaborative and additional level of accountability for our community.

The entire department and I here at the Beloit Police Department believe it is important to do everything we can to help prior offenders have a positive re-entry into our community. We recently created a Parolee Roll Call Program (PRCP) for our most recent parolees and I am proud to say it is working extremely well. In the last two months we have had five parolees individually come to a police roll call where they observe our city's law enforcement officers in action and, more importantly, get to meet the officers who patrol closest to their respective residences. Based on the feedback and interaction with each parolee, this program has been incredibly positive and well received. Several of the parolees are now actively engaged with their neighborhood officer and positive relationships have formed.

We could not have created this program without the cooperation of our partners at the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. They have been, and continue to be, a valuable partner in helping our Beloiters achieve a positive re-entry experience while keeping our community safe.

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If you know of or come across a person who has gone through PRCP please give him or her encouragement and inspiration. They have committed to us to improve their lives—positive messages from their neighbors can only help.

As we continue to enhance leadership and transition into a new era of modern-day policing, we strive to create other programs and protocols that will continue to help enhance our city.

Sincerely,

Interim Chief David Zibolski